

# Annual Report to the Board of Forestry: 2012 Forest Practices Act Effectiveness



Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Forestry



March 7, 2013

## Table of Contents

I.	Overview	2
II.	Forest Practices Implementation on Private, Municipal, and Trust Land	3
	A. Summary of forest practices activities	3
	B. Monitoring	3
	C. Reforestation	5
	D. Training	6
III.	State Land Activity	6
	A. Forest practices activity on state land in 2012	6
	B. Forest management activity on state land in 2012	9
	C. Land use planning	14
IV.	Federal Land Activity	14
V.	Special Projects	16
	A. ACWA (Alaska's Clean Water Actions)	16
	B. Alaska Timber Jobs Task Force Recommendations	16
	C. Regulatory Changes	17
VI.	Budget and Staffing	18
	A. FY13 total funding	18
	B. Anticipated funding needs and new initiatives	19
	C. Staff changes	20
VII.	Statement of FRPA effectiveness and recommendations for changes to correct procedural or substantive problems	21
VIII.	Research and Monitoring Priorities for 2013	21
IX.	Additional Tasks and Initiatives for 2013	21

### **Tables and Figures**

Table 1	2012 FRPA activities on private, municipal and trust land	23
Table 2	Summary of 2012 enforcement actions	33
Table 3	2012 compliance monitoring summary by region	4
Table 4	FY12 timber sales on state land	9
Table 5	Reforestation and stand improvement in 2012	11
Table 6	Tongass national forest timber sale program 2001-2012	16
Table 7	FY12 funding allocations by source for DOF forest practices work	19
Figure 1	Forest practices activities trends	32
Figure 2	Growth comparison between inventories	13

**DNR Division of Forestry  
Annual Report to the Board of Forestry:  
2012 Forest Practices Act Effectiveness  
March 7, 2013**

**I. OVERVIEW**

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Forestry (DOF) is pleased to submit its annual report on the Forest Resources and Practices Act (FRPA) and regulations to the Board of Forestry. DOF is the lead agency for implementation of the Forest Resources and Practices Act. Primary activities include coordinating interagency review of Detailed Plans of Operation (DPOs) for activities on private, municipal, and trust land; field inspections, implementation monitoring, and enforcement actions on these lands; and incorporating the standards of the Act and regulations into state timber sales. Forest practices related work on federal land is conducted by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Habitat Division based on their authorities for water quality and fish habitat protection.

Some of the notable activities and trends for CY 2012 follow.

- Finished final report for Governor's Alaska Timber Jobs Task Force per Administrative Order 258; report makes 35 specific recommendations that span eight substantive areas of the timber sector.
- Sold 18,786,000 board feet of lumber to 34 Alaskan businesses.
- Provided direct or indirect support to over 80 woody biomass projects - this is important work that is assisting many small, remote communities and larger road-side communities that are struggling with high energy costs for space heating and electrical needs.
- Continued to work through the State Tongass Team to provide coordinated state comments to USFS in regard to federal timber sales in the Tongass National Forest.
- Worked with Department of Law to support their efforts in appealing the decision to invalidate the Tongass National Forest exemption from the Roadless Rule in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court.

Overall, FRPA continues to be effective in protecting water quality and fish habitat, while providing for continued timber and fishing industry opportunities. DOF was able to sustain adequate field presence this year to ensure that the Act is implemented properly.

## II. FOREST PRACTICES IMPLEMENTATION ON PRIVATE, MUNICIPAL, AND TRUST LAND

### A. Summary of forest practices activities

**Notifications and inspections.** In 2012, DOF received and reviewed 57 new DPOs and 14 renewals for private, municipal, and state trust lands (see Table 1, p.23 and Figure 1, p. 32).<sup>1</sup> New DPOs covered 27515.85 acres and 131.76 miles of road. The Division conducted 29 inspections on private, municipal and trust land and 184 FRPA inspections on state timber sales. The number of new notifications continues its' downward trend; however, the amount of harvest acreage and road miles notified in 2012 are both slightly up over 2011. For the total of new plus renewed notifications, this year's total is the lowest on record since 1991. It is also a record low for inspections.

**Variations.** DOF reviewed 2 variation requests in 2012 for timber harvest within riparian buffer on Afognak Island. 686 of the 724 trees requested for harvesting in buffers were approved. The number of requests for site-specific riparian area variations continues the downward trend; however, the number of trees requested in 2012 spiked sharply upward.

**Enforcement.** Enforcement actions are summarized in Table 2 (p. 33). DOF issued no new notices of violation, directives, or stop work orders in 2012. There were two carry-over actions on notices of violation from previous years. This is the third straight year without any new directives, violations, or stop work orders.

### B. Monitoring

**Compliance monitoring.** During 2012, DOF conducted compliance monitoring on 100% of all FRPA and state timber sale inspections (Table 3, p. 4).

DOF has had good inspection coverage on all forest operations throughout the State. The score sheets and inspection reports show excellent compliance in all three regions. There has been a steady improvement in compliance over the last ten years, which has been the product of regular DOF training sessions and regular on-site inspections with the operators. Most regulation infractions have been discovered very early, so that the issues could be corrected before degradation could occur.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: FRPA data is reported on a calendar year basis because 11AAC95.220 requires Region I DPOs to be submitted by calendar year. Data on state forest management (e.g., state timber sale volumes) are reported by fiscal year to be consistent with state budget documents.

**Table 3. 2012 Compliance Monitoring Summary by Region.** A rating of 5 means the BMP was consistently and effectively implemented where applicable; a rating of 1 means the BMP was rarely implemented where applicable or was implemented ineffectively.

	# Score sheets		#BMP Ratings	Mean Score for all BMPs	Percentage of all BMPs rated $\geq 4$
	State	Private/Other Public			
Region 1	34	24	1292	4.87	98.3
Region 2	104	5	771	4.86	97.5
Region 3	46	0	623	4.60	93.3
Total	184	29	2686	4.78	97.0

**Effectiveness Monitoring.** DOF continues to work with agencies and affected interests to prioritize new effectiveness research, and seek funding for high priority projects. Fourteen participants representing state and federal agencies and private organizations involved with research and monitoring related to forest practices in Alaska met in Juneau on April 19, 2012. Staff participated from DNR, ADF&G, DEC, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Sealaska Corporation and Martin Environmental. The group reviewed potential funding sources for 2012-13, summarized 2011 compliance monitoring results and effectiveness monitoring projects, and discussed effectiveness monitoring priorities for the coming year. The top priority projects for 2012-13 are continued Road Condition Surveys on the Kenai Peninsula and the Trends & Conditions of Fish Habitat study.

Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF). ADF&G reported there is uncertainty with federal funding. The amount of funding is declining – from \$80 million to \$65 million nationally, and next year only \$50 million is proposed. Alaska’s share of the national amount is also declining, although we won’t know for two months the amount of funding that will be available. ADF&G has four science panels that set priorities for the statewide panel. There will be a call for proposals this August-September; perhaps \$9 million or less may be available, plus \$3-4 million left over for similar projects from last year.

New this year is the need to apply via a “prioritized list” for projects in four areas:

1. ESA (Chinook salmon ESA)
2. Habitat Protection and Restoration (*not* monitoring) to salmon populations used for subsistence
3. Salmon population status monitoring
4. Habitat protection all lands

Past road condition surveys were paid for with AKSSF. However, in 2012, the Tyonek road condition surveys were paid for by the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) using funds that originated as Spruce bark beetle money, of which KPB is the pass through agency. The 2012

Kenai Peninsula road condition surveys were funded by AKSSF, however that required a match which came from DOF general fund monies and the KPB.

State and Private Forestry (USFS) grants. DOF explained that part of the State & Private Forestry (S&PF) funding is allocated through a competitive process and that Alaska has had limited success with this approach. S&PF provided \$200,000, with a Sealaska match, to continue Doug Martin's work and develop a final report. Alaska also received funding to provide training in support of wood energy development in Fort Yukon, using a non-federal 50-50 match.

**Road condition surveys.** DOF, with the assistance of ADFG, surveyed close to 60 miles of road on the Kenai Peninsula and 74 miles on the west side of Cook Inlet in the Tyonek area. The surveys covered land owned by the State, Mental Health Trust, University, Borough and Native corporations. Most of the roads were in good shape and compliance overall was met. There were some low-rated fish culverts found in the Tyonek Area on an old State logging road built before the FRPA was passed. There were four new nominations on the Kenai and nine new nominations in the Tyonek area to the Anadromous Waters Catalog, as a result of the 2012 surveys.

### **C. Reforestation**

**Reforestation exemptions.** Harvests that are significantly composed of dead or dying trees may be exempted from FRPA reforestation requirements. There were three requests for reforestation exemptions in 2012 and three were approved. The reforestation exemptions were on Kenai Peninsula Borough lands located in the Anchor Point area. All stands were heavily impacted by bark beetle mortality in the late 1990's and 15 years later the residual stands are comprised of over eighty percent mortality. Meeting the field conditions required in 11 AAC 95.375 and Division policy, reforestation exemptions were approved.

**Kenai-Kodiak Area FRPA reforestation compliance.** Leisnoi Inc. planted a total of 460,935 seedlings in 2012 on Kodiak Island. Efforts to restock harvest units from the mid-1990's totaled 862 acres of planting; the remaining seedlings were planted on 983 acres of recently harvested sale units.

The reforestation backlog acres below include harvest units that have insufficient stocking levels within the required post-harvest timeframes and some units that have been planted, but have not received plantation survival surveys to verify the required two-year survival.

The reforestation backlogs are as follows:

Location/Ownership	Acres
<b>Afognak Island</b>	
Afognak Native Corporation	605
Afognak Joint Venture	187

Koncor (Ouzinkie Native Corporation / Natives of Kodiak)	331
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**Kodiak Island**

Leisnoi Incorporated	2133
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**Kenai Peninsula**

State DNR	214
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**D. Training**

Landowner/operator training. Training for landowners and operators is normally provided by area personnel with oversight from Regional staff. Sessions vary from formal classroom presentations to more informal “tailgate” sessions conducted during field inspections. Training is also provided through DPO reviews and inspection reports that provide recommendations for ways to conduct operations that will implement the BMPs. In 2012, seven sessions were conducted training 47 individuals.

Interagency Training. Training in the basic aspects of the FRPA is provided to other agencies on a continuing basis as new personnel are assigned to FRPA tasks, and as specific topics or issues arise that can best be addressed by a joint training session. In 2012, DOF provided training for the entire ADFG Habitat Office and DOF staff in Juneau which amounted to 13 people.

DOF staff training. In 2012, one training session on BMP compliance monitoring was provided to eight DOF staff members.

**III. STATE LAND ACTIVITY**

**A. Forest practices activity on state land in 2012.**

**Coastal Region/Tok.** The timber industry in the Southeast continues to struggle due to the lack of a short-term and long-term timber supply coming from the Tongass National Forest and the lack of harvestable timber on Native corporation land. The USFS is changing their timber management focus to restoration and second-growth management, drastically reducing the amount of old-growth harvesting. The amount of second-growth timber available for harvest is not sufficient at this time for the local industry to retool for second-growth manufacturing, other than on a limited basis. For the short term, Sealaska Timber Corporation is projecting one to two years of timber harvesting remaining on their lands, and will have to stop harvest operations until their remaining entitlement is resolved? Higher logging costs, transportation costs, and fuel costs, also make it harder for the local industries to compete in national and world markets. Only one mid-sized mill remains in the Southeast. The local small mills in the Haines area are continuing at their normal rate, providing local lumber, house logs, and firewood for the community. Timber harvest operations continue on Afognak and Kodiak islands, primarily harvesting spruce logs for export. On the Kenai Peninsula, the dead spruce continues to

deteriorate, with limited or no value for lumber production or chip production. The local timber industry in the Mat-Su and Tok continues to produce lumber and the local mills are slowly building high-value-added capacity.

The long-term demand for State timber continues to be high in the Coastal Region and the Division has worked hard to meet those demands. The remaining mid-sized mill, Viking Lumber in Klawock, purchased one State sale in 2011, for approximately 4.5 MMBF and purchased a large Forest Service sale for approximately 38 MMBF. The Southern Southeast Area office continues to prepare timber sales to supply volume for the Viking mill, along with providing small sales for the local operators. Demand for state firewood is high in Southcentral Alaska and in Tok. Due to interest in a large biomass project in Tok, we submitted a Preliminary Best Interest Finding for public review and comment in December, 2012. The finding is for a 25-year timber sale contract, providing approximately 35,000 tons of fiber per year for a cogeneration plant in Tok from approximately 1,000 acres of state land annually. This means at least a five-fold increase of harvested acreage, greatly increasing the need for forest practices inspections on these lands.

High fuel prices have increased interest in alternative energy sources, such as pellet mills, ethanol plants, and co-generation plants. Private sector companies are exploring possibilities of commercial operations on Prince of Wales Island, in Haines, on the Kenai Peninsula, and in the Mat-Su area. Commercial operations such as these focus on total fiber supply, rather than log volume and quality. These new industries would benefit the local communities and help build an integrated timber industry. New operations would also increase the demand for State timber in areas that have had minimal harvest in past years.

Local communities throughout the Coastal Region continue to explore the feasibility of wood-fired furnaces to heat their schools and office buildings and help reduce high heating costs. The City of Craig continues to heat their community swimming pool and their school with a chip-fired furnace. The Tok School is heated with biomass and has also produced surplus energy for the local power grid. The City and Borough of Haines has almost completed its feasibility study, along with Sitka and Talkeetna. The Coastal Region continues to provide technical assistance and expertise to these communities during their studies. If these projects become operational, there will be a high demand to provide State timber to fuel these burners.

Demand for firewood continues to be high due to increased fuel prices, especially on the Kenai Peninsula and the Mat-Su/Anchorage area. On-line permitting has made the firewood permitting process a little easier. Foresters continue to lay out firewood areas, based on local demand. The Division of Forestry received a \$600,000 CIP to build new access roads for personal use and commercial firewood areas. Commercial fire wood sales continue to increase in all the areas of the Coastal Region, using timber that has limited or no use for sawlog manufacturing.

**Northern Region.** Maintaining a sustainable supply of timber and meeting the needs of both the forest products industry and the public continues to be a focus of the Northern Region. An increased demand for material that has been classified as non-merchantable in the Tok and Delta Areas is pushing the limits of available staff in the area offices. Personnel from Coastal Region have stepped up to help alleviate the workload through the formation of Large Project



Management Teams. This increasing demand is due to project proposals for development of wood energy facilities in the Tanana Valley. Young's Timber, Inc. and Alaska Power and Telephone in Tok, and the US Army installation at Ft. Greely in Delta Junction, are considering conversion to biomass fuels for heat and power production.

High fuel oil prices continue to influence personal-use and commercial firewood harvests throughout the Region. The Division continues to provide information to communities concerning the benefits of burning dry, well-seasoned wood compared to burning freshly-harvested green wood and is working with the Fairbanks North Star Borough in support of the "Split, Stack, Store, and Save" informational initiative. The cities of Fairbanks and North Pole continue to face scrutiny from the federal Environmental Protection Agency for high levels of particulate matter related to winter wood-burning. Timber theft is increasingly becoming an issue on both State and Fairbanks North Star Borough lands. As a result of illegal cutting of large white spruce, the Rosie Creek Road was closed to public access in early winter.

Fairbanks Area continues to work with the Division of Mining, Land, and Water and the Fairbanks North Star Borough to access timber burnt by the 2011 Hastings Fire. The Pete Simpson Memorial Road was constructed as a fire line during the Hasting Fire and there is an estimated 4,864 acres of assessable burnt timber within Unit 4 of the Tanana Valley State Forest. This includes spruce saw timber, birch, and aspen. Based on Tanana Valley inventory data, approximately 177,270 tons of wood could be salvaged. The road is named in memory of long-time DOF Forester Pete Simpson who had a lasting impact on the Division's wildland fire management program and was active with many community forestry events.

The first full year of operation of the wood-fired boiler at the Delta/Greely School District has proven to be very successful. There remains a strong interest in wood energy development throughout the Interior and a continued strong working relationship with the local communities and varied interests throughout the Tanana Basin is critical to the success of these projects.

The Northern Region received six new Detailed Plans of Operations in calendar year 2012, four of these on Fairbanks North Star Borough parcels designed as commercial firewood sales designed to help alleviate the demand for firewood by the local public due to the high cost of fossil fuels. Forest practices inspections this year focused primarily on state administered timber sales. Compliance inspections indicated that Best Management Practices were implemented on the sales.

The Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Tanana Valley State Forest is almost fully staffed with 10 of the 12 seats occupied. The CAC provides tremendous outreach to the public throughout the state to keep them informed of the challenges and activities of the Division of Forestry in the Tanana Valley. With the long-term biomass harvest proposals in the middle and upper portions of the Tanana Valley, effective public communications is essential. CAC Meetings are held throughout the year with the exception of a summer recess.

A severe wind event in mid-September knocked down pockets of timber in the Tok and Delta Areas affecting approximately 30,000 acres. The volume of timber material overwhelms the

capacity of the existing industry. The priority for harvests is to improve safety around Dry Creek and the Native Village of Tanacross by removing the blockages to access.

## **B. Forest management on state land in FY12**

**State timber sales.** FY12 timber sale offerings on state land are summarized by area in Table 4. In FY12, DOF offered 51 sales on 4430 acres of land. Sale offerings totaled 18.6 million board feet. One sale available in the Delta area did not sell. Of the sales offered, 50 sales totaling 17.5 million board feet were sold on 4337 acres, and these sales went to 40 different Alaskan businesses.

**Table 4. FY12 Timber sales on state land.** Note: some sales are offered in cords or cubic feet rather than board feet. For comparison in this chart, all volumes have been converted to board feet. Therefore, the total volumes are approximate.

Area	Total sales offered			Total sales sold		
	# sales	Acres	Vol. (MBF)	# sales	Acres	Vol. (MBF)
SSE	4	218	8011	4	218	8011
NSE	13	44	545	13	44	545
Kenai-Kodiak	5	177	1260	5	177	1260
Mat-Su	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coastal Total	22	439	9816	22	439	9816
Fairbanks	9	248	1416	9	248	1416
Delta	9	161	1718	8	68	642
Tok	7	148	4875	7	148	4875
Copper River	4	3434	806	4	3434	806
Northern Total	29	3991	8815	28	3898	7739
<b>State Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>4430</b>	<b>18631</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>4337</b>	<b>17555</b>

The Southern Southeast Area continues to sell its Annual Allowable Cut while the other Areas are meeting local demand. Overall, in the past ten years, DOF sold 670 timber sales totaling over 230 million board feet. In FY13, the state timber sale program will focus on meeting increasing demand for timber sales in Southcentral and Interior while maintaining timber sale activity in Southern Southeast to help offset uncertain federal timber supply.

**Biomass.** DOF issued a preliminary Best Interest Finding (BIF) on May 17, 2012 for a negotiated long-term biomass sale near Tok. That finding was rescinded by the State Forester on September 14, 2012 as it was clear that there was competitive interest in such a sale. A revised preliminary BIF for a competitive long-term biomass sale was issued on December 17, 2012. Work began on December 3, 2012 for a preliminary BIF to offer a competitive long-term biomass sale for Fort Greely near Delta.

**Reforestation.** Regeneration of harvested or naturally disturbed areas is an essential part of forest management on state land. To achieve a sustained yield of wood fiber from forestland, the Division collects cones for seed extraction, contracts for seedling production, and plants

seedlings to improve reforestation. DOF also cooperates with research organizations to enhance reforestation and forest productivity in Alaska.

This year reforestation on state lands comprised 6000 seedlings planted on 32 acres and 183 acres scarified for natural regeneration (Table 5). On State Forest lands in southeast, 454 were pre-commercial thinned and 13 acres pruned. Alaska Native Corporations reported 11483 acres of pre-commercial thinning.

The DOF has been collecting and storing seed for over 25 years. Tree seed is cleaned and stored by the DNR Division of Agriculture. Tree seed collections are used for reforestation of state lands, and also sold for other reforestation operations. White spruce seed can be stored for over 20 years if properly treated. In 2012 approximately 1 bushel of cones was collected and germination tested. Germination tests were also performed on samples of seed lots from 1990, 1997 and 1998.

**Thinning and pruning.** One contractor completed 13 acres of pruning in 2012. An additional 20 acres of pruning contracts are being worked on this winter. With the completion of these contracts 360 acres will have been pruned in the Haines State Forest since this program began in 2000. The pruning areas are the second growth stands that were harvested in the late 1960s and early 1970s. A local contractor prunes the branches from the base of the tree to 16 feet up. The larger diameter dominant trees are selected for pruning at a density of about 75 to 90 trees per acre. Through pruning we hope to provide clear or knot free lumber over the remainder of the 120-year rotation age, which will provide higher future values.

Pre-commercial thinning continued on the Haines State Forest with 32 acres completed in 2012. A total of 2,014 acres have been thinned since the program began in 1993. Thinning, by removing trees competing for sunlight, maintains the tremendous growth these stands are presently producing and will create larger trees in a shorter period. Thinning has the added benefit of maintaining browse species for moose. Additional prescriptions were implemented in 2002 in an attempt to provide release for the dominant trees but also to retain some of the smaller trees to provide for natural pruning of the future crop trees. Several areas are also not being thinned for the purpose of comparison and to provide diversity. The stands where most of the thinning is occurring were harvested in the late 1960s and early 1970s and now average 60 to 65 feet tall with 10 to 13 inch diameters.

**Table 5. Reforestation and Stand Improvement in 2012**

Location	Seedlings planted	Acres planted	Acres scarified	Acres thinned	Acres pruned	Acres regeneration survey
Fairbanks DOF						
Delta DOF						
Tok DOF	1500	10	135			
SSE DOF				424		
NSE DOF	4500	22		30	13	
Kenai DOF						268
Mat-Su DOF			48			
<b>DOF Total</b>	<b>6000</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>268</b>

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects.** The Southern Southeast Area received a \$660,000 grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in October 2009. The funds were used to improve wildlife and timber values by pre-commercially thinning previously harvested and overstocked stands on State lands. With this grant, we were able to thin the majority of Southeast State Forest stands that were of an age to be thinned. A total of 1,838 acres were thinned on Prince of Wales, Kosciusko, and Wrangell Islands during the three-year grant period. Nine contracts were issued to local thinning companies, averaging 204 acres and \$61,369 per contract. The grant expired December 2012.

The Forest Stewardship program administered two grants from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. One grant was awarded to Sealaska Corporation for \$640,500 to create employment in communities with high un-employment and to improve forest health and wildlife habitat. Treatments were basal pruning, precommercial thinning of surplus crop trees and ingrowth, and slash lopping and piling. Treatment lands involved Sealaska Corporation, Klawock Heenya Corporation, Kake Tribal Corporation, Shaan Seet Incorporated, and Huna Totem Corporation. In total 1,303 acres were treated and the grant provided 13,270 hours of employment for the contractors and 777 hours for supervisors. The grantee reported the project “proved to be a valuable source of income in villages that have staggering unemployment, and the employment offered occurred during the most economically distressed season.” This was confirmed by DOF inspectors. The second grant was awarded to Shaan Seet Incorporated for \$136,900 to provide silviculture jobs and perform precommercial thinning. Treatment was conducted on Kivilco Incorporated, Klukwan Incorporated, Shaan Seet Incorporated, and Cape

Fox Corporation land. In total, 283 acres were treated. Employment hours were 1,940 for contractors and 272 for supervisors.

**Forest Inventory.** Statewide inventory projects continue to address the wood supply needs of existing, new, and developing value-added wood processing facilities. Biomass resource utilization is expanding across the state and forest inventory provides data on the quantity and location of the wood supply. Accurate inventory data is important to determine sustainable harvest rates, evaluate economic metrics, support infrastructure development, and properly apply best management practices. Maintaining up-to-date forest inventory data supports DNR's mission to provide a sustained yield of forest products and uses.

Projects in progress include updates of the Tanana Valley and Haines State Forest inventories and a new Susitna Valley forest inventory. The Tanana Valley inventory update has been underway for several years and is now focused on assessing woodland and reproduction vegetation types. This information will supplement data from revised poletimber and sawtimber vegetation types. Field sampling in these timber types was completed and the final volume analysis is underway. Some of this timber may be suitable for biomass utilization.

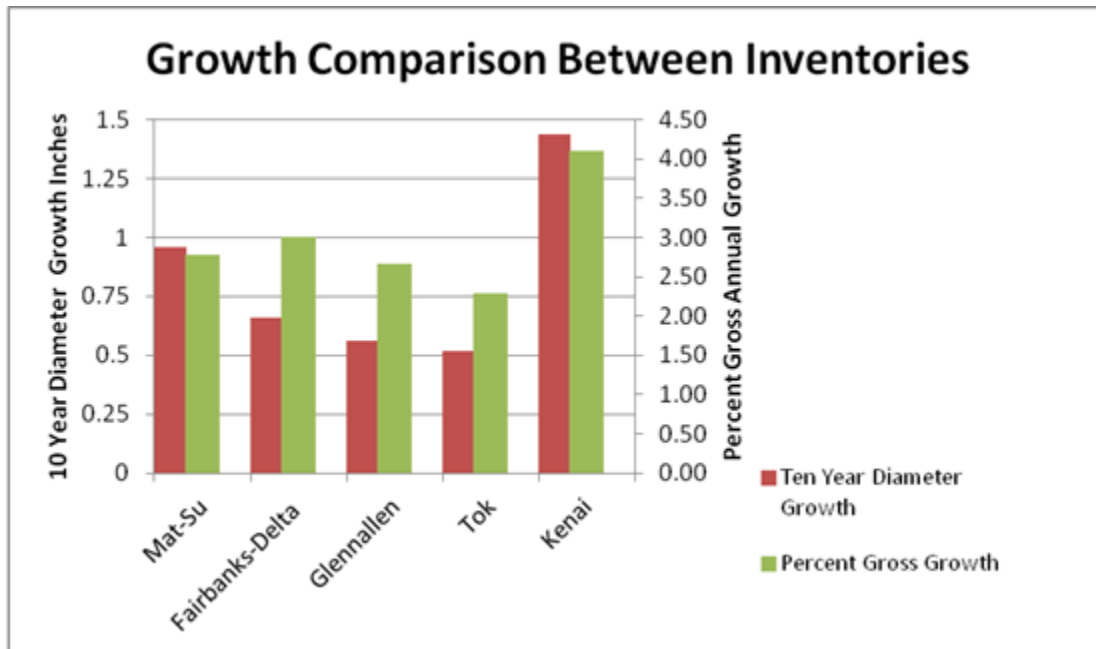
DOF also re-measured permanent sample plots in Haines. The Haines update will revise volume estimates for bark beetle mortality and tree growth. A growth model will be developed from the plot data to more accurately determine sustained yield.

DOF conducted Mat-Su inventory field sampling in 2010. An interim report summarizes data on approximately 490,000 acres of forest classified land in the valley. Subsequent to the report DOF delineated vegetation types on an additional 200,000 acres and incorporated the new data into the Division's Geographic Information System. The remaining area of proposed Su Valley state forest lands will be classified when suitable satellite imagery becomes available. The Division received imagery covering roughly 40,000 acres in December 2012 and will classify this area in winter 2013.

Inventory projects have also been funded in part through a partnership with the Alaska Energy Authority. AEA has helped fund inventories to ensure that the proposals they receive for wood energy projects are sustainable over the long term. The Tanana biomass assessment which was a cooperative effort between DOF and Tanana Chiefs Conference was completed in 2012. The Tanana project was mentioned in the 2011 BOF report.

The Kenai inventory was the most significant project completed in 2012 with AEA funding. It provides detailed forest information for state lands across the Kenai Peninsula. As far as key results go, an unexpected result occurred with the Kenai inventory. Although in terms of volume per acre (it is the lowest of all state inventory regions), it exhibited the greatest growth rates of all the areas. This is related to the bark beetle outbreak where the trees that survived the beetles are quite vigorous and have been released from competition.

See below graph comparing 10-yr diameter growth and percent gross growth between inventories:



**Geographic Information System (GIS).** DOF uses GIS technology as a tool to aid in the management of its resources, in both the Resource and Fire Programs. The Division operates statewide on a landscape level, and so uses the system to accomplish two basic functions: 1. spatially convey the Division's actions to the public, industry, and other land managers; and 2. store and document information that is spatially linked and relevant to forest resources and wild land fire management.

To meet these goals, DOF initiated a GIS Committee to steer the program and to make recommendations to the division management team. The GIS Committee has put together a GIS plan that makes recommendations on the access to software and data, data structure, and system architecture.

DOF is a partner in the DNR-wide ESRI Enterprise License Agreement (ELA). This license agreement allows anyone that has need of GIS software to have that access along with training. Also, the agreement allows the division to use the most current ESRI ArcGIS software suite.

The division is replacing the outdated Forestry GIS website with new subject-specific web mapping applications that will be available to the public and internal users.

**Beach Log Salvage.** The Southern Southeast Area administers the Beach Log Salvage licensing program. This program provides a vehicle for commercial operators to recover lost saw-logs from the coastal waters of southeast Alaska and requires coordination with the USDA Forest Service and other upper tideland owners. The southeastern waters are divided into 56 salvage areas. Prices for timber are going up and more people are inquiring about salvage areas near communities or logging operations where transportation costs can be minimized. In 2012, DOF renewed three licenses and issued no new licenses; the areas were located in Southern Southeast.

**C. Land use planning.** Susitna Matanuska Area Plan. The Commissioner of DNR adopted the Susitna Matanuska Area Plan in 2011. The area plan designates about 700,000 acres of land for Forestry. The plan also recommends consideration of legislative designation of a Susitna State Forest for the forest classified lands. Alaska Survival appealed the Commissioner's decision adopting the area plan to the Alaska Superior Court; however, the court did not grant a stay. The court heard oral arguments concerning this case on February 8, 2013.

Susitna Forestry Guidelines Update. The Division of Forestry's effort to update the 1991 Susitna Forestry Guidelines is on hold pending action by the state legislature on bills that would designate a new Susitna State Forest for the forest classified lands within the Susitna valley. Legislation to designate a Susitna State Forest has been introduced, and if it passes, DOF will adopt a State Forest Management Plan. If it does not pass, the division will proceed with developing a forest management plan for the Susitna area as called for in the Susitna Matanuska Area Plan. Once adopted, a new forest management plan will replace the Susitna Forestry Guidelines.

Southeast State Forest Management Plan. During 2012, Division staff continued drafting the required forest management plan for the Southeast State Forest. The forest management plan is scheduled for completion in 2013. Remaining steps prior to adoption include review of the draft by agencies, the public, and the Board of Forestry.

Tanana Basin Area Plan. The Division of Mining, Land and Water began revising the Tanana Basin Area Plan (TBAP) three years ago. DMLW divided the 14.5 million acre TBAP area into two smaller planning units; the Eastern Tanana Area Plan and the Yukon Tanana Area Plan. During 2012, DMLW conducted a public review of the draft Yukon Tanana Area Plan. In late 2012 they announced the Commissioner of DNR's "Intent to Adopt" the plan and conducted a second review period. At the end of 2012 the Yukon Tanana Area Plan was undergoing further internal review prior to its adoption. The DMLW is continuing to work on a draft of the new Eastern Tanana Basin Area Plan. The next steps may include another round of community meetings and the release of a public review draft of the area plan.

#### **IV. FEDERAL LAND ACTIVITY**

DOF does not conduct FRPA inspections on federal land. However, in 2012, the Division participated in a number of forest management projects for the National Forests in Alaska.

##### **The Working Forest Group**

Working with representatives of the timber industry, DOF helped develop the "working forest" concept. The resources of a "working forest" are managed based on the triple bottom line theory of balancing environment, community and economy. In conjunction with providing essential ecosystem services such as clean water and air, a working forest develops its natural resources to provide jobs within local communities which stabilizes and strengthens the area's economy. The Final Report of the Governor's Timber Jobs Taskforce included the working forest concept as follows:

Alaska's federal and state forests have the potential to be a model of sustainability, including environmental, social, and economic objectives. The "Working Forest" concept embraces diverse and broad objectives related to utilizing natural resources, providing jobs, stimulating local economies, and supporting communities. These broad objectives have the potential to unify diverse stakeholders and interest groups while framing many of the State of Alaska's short- and long-term goals.

Working Forests:

1. Support industries that use Alaska's natural resources on a sustained-yield principle based on multiple-use management, consistent with public interest;
2. Manage timber resource production on a rotational basis to provide for a fully-integrated timber industry capable of producing a variety of products; and
3. Attract private-sector investment that establishes businesses, creates jobs, and provides community stability. [2](#)

In early 2012, The Working Forest Group (TWFG) was formed and in June incorporated under Alaska statutes. As a statewide group that endorses the "working forest" concept, TWFG has three main goals: 1 to promote the active management of all Alaskan forests; 2 forest resource user groups should work together and jointly provide input on the management of public forests; and 3 to conduct research that can be used to make informed decisions. At the present time TWFG is conducting studies on both young growth and old growth timber stands in southeast Alaska. The research is funded by the Division of Forestry and the United States Forest Service.

#### **Chugach National Forest Plan**

In February 2012, the Chugach National Forest announced that it was selected as one of eight national forests across the country to revise its forest plan under the new National Forest System Planning Rule. The forest plan provides Forest Service staff direction for managing resources and activities such as recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, historic and sacred sites, vegetation, mineral exploration and development, and timber on the Chugach. The construction of a new forest plan, which is estimated to take at least three years to complete, will be done in three phases. During 2013 the Forest Service will conduct phase one, the "assessment"; which will identify and evaluate existing information about ecological, economic and social conditions and trends related to the Forest and Southcentral Alaska. The resulting assessment report will provide a solid base of information for phase two, drafting the revised plan and developing an environmental impact statement under the guidelines of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Phase three is the development of a monitoring strategy to assess how well implementation of projects on the Chugach meets the goals and objectives of the plan.

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[2](#) Report to Governor Sean Parnell, Administrative Order 258: Final Report, page 2



**Table 6. Tongass National Forest Timber Sale Program 2001-2012.**  
Volumes in MMBF

Federal Fiscal Year	TTRA Volume Offered	Timber volume offered	Timber volume sold	Timber volume harvested	Timber volume under contract
2001	119	68	50	48	283
2002	110	57	24	34	296
2003	151	89	36	51	193
2004	153	73	87	46	149
2005	143	110	65	50	104
2006	143	24	85	43	111
2007	116	32	30	19	114
2008	99	42	5	28	97
2009	146	36	10	28	84
2010	173	46	46	36	98
2011	110	44	38	33	105
2012	127	53	53	21	150
<b>Average</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>149</b>

## V. SPECIAL PROJECTS

**A. ACWA (Alaska's Clean Water Actions).** The Division continued to support ACWA by providing technical expertise for forestry-related grant proposals to DNR's representative on the interagency grant review committee. Joel Nudelman from the Southern Southeast Area Office represents the Department of Natural Resources on the Water Experts Group. This participation is partially funded through a \$5,000 RSA from DEC to DNR. The Water Experts Group ranks waters for needed restoration work, monitoring, and data collection.

**B. Alaska Timber Jobs Task Force Recommendations.** In 2011, the Governor appointed a nine-member Task Force to develop recommendations for managing forest land to further economic development and provide jobs for Alaskans from timber harvest. The Task Force issued its final report in October, 2012. The report includes 34 recommendations addressing

- management of state-owned forest land,
- additions to existing State Forests,
- creation of new State Forests,
- changes to State statutes or regulations governing timber harvesting,
- state land acquisition or exchanges in the Tongass National Forest,
- areas of research related to use of the Tongass National Forest and impacts on wildlife,
- demand for timber in the Tongass National Forest,
- possible timber sales in the Tongass National Forest to meet demand, and
- current wood products and potential new products/uses of timber supplied by the Tongass National Forest.

For state land, the report recommends changes to timber sale statutes and regulations, acquisition of federal land in Southeast Alaska, additional and expanded state forests, and access development and maintenance. On federal land, the Task Force recommends the transfer of some Tongass National Forest land or management authority to the state to increase the supply of federal timber sales. Task Force recommendations for research and review of game management policies in Southeast, and wood products development would affect both state and federal land.

Proposals for State Forests include a major expansion to the Tanana Valley State Forest and new State Forests in the Susitna valley, Copper River basin, Kenai-Cook Inlet, and Icy Bay areas. If Southeast land is acquired from the USFS, it would be added to the Southeast State Forest.

The Board of Forestry held a special meeting on December 14, 2012 to review the Task Force recommendations. Following review, the Board unanimously endorsed a letter to the Governor supporting the Task Force report with the caveat that any changes in land ownership and forest management must continue to provide adequate protection for fish habitat and water quality, ensure reforestation of harvested land, and fully comply with the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act.

In January, 2013, the Governor introduced a bill to implement Task Force recommendations to establish a 763,200-acre Susitna State Forest and broaden DNR authority to offer negotiated timber sales.

**C. Regulatory Changes.** Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) regulation repeal. DNR issued draft regulations to align existing regulations with the termination of the ACMP. The Board of Forestry reviewed and concurred with the changes that affect FRPA before the draft regulations were issued. The sections affecting FRPA would:

- delete the explanation of the relationship between FRPA and ACMP in 11 AAC 95.185(g);
- delete the requirement to send copies of FRPA inspection reports to “affected coastal districts” in 11 AAC 95.245(d);
- delete the definition of “coastal district” in 11 AAC 95.900(9); and
- amend the definition of “project” for public land (11 AAC 95.900(60)). The previous definition was contained in the ACMP regulations. With the repeal of ACMP regulations, there was no definition of “project” for public land. This term is used in 11 AAC 95.185(d) regarding DEC variances from ant degradation requirements. The new definition is based on activities under a Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) for state land, or under a DPO for other public land.

Public notice changes. HB361 made changes to Title 38 in the 2012 legislative session that went into effect on July 1, 2012. The bill dealt primarily with Division of Mining, Land, and Water programs, including land disposals and material sales. However, some changes affected forestry. In particular, the bill:

- changed public notice requirements under AS 38.05.945. Notice through the state online notice system is now mandatory, and publication of notices in newspapers is optional; and

- created new sections addressing material sales, and deleted materials from the sale procedures in AS 38.05.110, .115, and .120 and AS 41.23.470(b). These sections now address only timber sales.

Landslide regulations. DOF issued the public notice for the regulation package on December 12, 2012. The regulations implement the recommendations from the Landslide Science & Technical Committee and the Implementation Group that were endorsed by the Board.

Comments on the regulations are due January 31, 2013. The amendments would:

- Use the new term “unstable area” in the section on DPOs (11 AAC 95.220), and include indicators for identifying unstable areas;
- Use the term “unstable slope” in all other BMPs that previously used the terms “unstable slope,” “unstable or slide-prone slope,” or “unstable slope or slide-prone area,” and a definition for “unstable slope” to the definitions section (11 AAC 95.900). This applies to the BMPs on road construction (11 AAC 95.290), harvest unit planning and design (.340), landings (.345), cable yarding (.360), and tracked and wheeled harvest systems (.365).
- Add a definition for “unstable fill material” to the regulatory definitions and use the new term in the BMP on balancing cuts and fills in road construction (11 AAC 95.290(b)(2))
- Add a new subsection to the cable yarding BMPs (11 AAC 95.360) requiring that operators minimize disturbance to soils, understory vegetation, stumps, and root systems.
- Add a new subsection to the harvest planning BMPs (11 AAC 95.340) requiring that operators consider techniques such as partial cuts, retention areas, and helicopter or skyline yarding to minimize disturbance.
- Add to the tracked and wheeled harvesting BMPs (11 ACC 95.365) a requirement that an operator provide notice to DOF before operating tracked or wheeled equipment on unstable slopes.

## **VI. BUDGET AND STAFFING**

### **A. FY13 total funding**

FY13 funding sources for core DOF forest practices work are shown in Table 7. Core funds for FY13 total \$669,900, a \$56,900 decrease from FY12 levels. The last federal funding for core work was in FY 11. A FY12 general fund increment directed to forest practices has allowed the division to fund forest practices at a level appropriate to demand.

FY 13 FRPA staffing is roughly level with FY12 with Forest Practices work spread over 13 positions. This includes field staff, clerical support, and program management positions. This small staff coordinates Forest Practices work among the resource agencies, reviews notifications, conducts field inspections and enforcement actions, does compliance monitoring, provides training, and leads review and development of FRPA standards and regulations. Other DOF forest management staff also conducts FRPA compliance monitoring on state timber sales.

**Table 7. FY13 Funding allocations for DOF core forest practices work**

<b>Funding source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
State General Fund – FRPA (not included is \$18.0 in funding for the Board of Forestry as it is not considered core work)	\$669,900	100%
Total	\$669,900	100%

As previously mentioned DOF does continue to receive \$5,000 in federal funding through DEC for participation in the ACWA Water Experts Group.

**B. Anticipated funding needs and new initiatives**

**Projected 2013 FRPA activity.** The Southern Southeast area expects a major decrease in new DPOs for 2012. This is due primarily to Sealaska’s lack of new harvest areas and the fact that the large harvest operation on Mental Health land at Leask Lake was completed in 2012. Sealaska does have ongoing operations on the Cleveland Peninsula, and at Tolstoi Bay and Kina Cove. DPO renewals and renewed acreage should be about the same as last year. The expectation is that export market prices will continue to be steady and the China market will continue to grow. The University of Alaska has advertised a large sale of their remaining timber volume on Kosciusko Island. If this sale is purchased, then we will see additional DPOs for this operation. Road closure notifications will remain steady, as more spur roads and temporary roads will be ‘put to bed’. DOF received CIP funding in 2012 for new road construction and other access projects in Southeast. FRPA inspections for new road construction will increase, once these road projects are under contract. The demand for state timber harvesting in 2013 will remain steady, even as the Forest Service makes more timber available. This will generate more forest practices field inspections and compliance monitoring on state land.

***The Northern Southeast Area expects a minor increase in new DPOs for 2013, due primarily to Sealaska’s harvest operations at Sitkoh Bay on Baranof Island.*** This will be a combined helicopter/shovel logging operation. No harvest operations in Hoonah are planned at this time, due to poor log quality and higher logging costs. A lot depends on the viability of the export market and an increased demand for the low quality logs. The Mental Health trust is considering a potential second growth timber harvest operation at Icy Bay. The Trust still has some roads to close out this year, so there should be a small increase in FRPA inspections at Icy Bay in 2013. State timber sales on the Haines State Forest will remain steady. All the Haines sales are small sales for the local sawmills. No large harvest sales are planned.

The Kenai/Kodiak Area expects the number of notifications and acreage on Afognak Island to be about the same in 2013 as in 2012. Timber harvest and road building operations will continue on Afognak, both for Koncor and Afognak Native Association. The export market should remain steady for 2013, and prices and demand may increase slightly. DOF will monitor inactive roads and conduct reforestation inspections on Afognak Island on all operations. Inspections for road close-outs will continue, as more roads are being closed after harvesting. There is an ongoing timber harvest operation on Leisnoi land on Kodiak Island. Operations for 2013 should be

similar to last year, building roads and harvesting approximately 20 MMBF. A road condition survey on the Kenai Peninsula, funded by the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund, will be completed this summer. DOF continues to sell firewood sales on the Kenai Peninsula, so FRPA inspections for State sales should increase in 2013.

The Mat-Su Area expects a continued high demand for fuelwood in 2013, both personal use and commercial firewood sales, due to the high price of fuel oil. The Area received some CIP funding to build approximately nine miles of winter road, to access a block of timber for personal and commercial use. This road construction project will get under way in 2013. DOF will also put out multiple new sales in areas with existing access. This should increase sale inspection activity for 2013. The Matanuska Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough has begun developing personal use firewood areas on their land and may sell commercial firewood sales also. In general, Borough land is much more accessible than State land. The Mat-Su Borough sold their Chijuk timber sale, encompassing 24,500 acres in 1998. This sale was held up in court, but a tentative settlement has been reached. The purchaser of that sale intends to begin harvest operations in 2013, so we expect an increase in DPOs, field inspections, and Forest Practices training for that operation.

The Southwest Area expects to be active this year, primarily on the Kuskokwim River. Napaimute Enterprises purchased a 400-acre timber sale on Kuskokwim Corporation land and have already submitted DPOs for that operation for 2013. This is a large firewood sale and the cordwood is being barged down the Kuskokwim River for delivery to small coastal villages. Further firewood sales are being considered in Aniak and Galena, due to the high selling value of firewood in the remote villages. DOF is also planning to set up personal-use firewood areas in Dillingham for 2013.

The Tok Area continues to have an active firewood program, selling personal use cordwood and commercial firewood sales. They also sell sawlog timber sales to three local manufacturers. The Tok Area anticipates offering a 25-year sale for approximately 1000 acres a year in late spring 2013. This is primarily designed as a biomass sale, producing chips and fiber for proposed combined heat and energy facilities in the Tok vicinity. If this sale is purchased, the facility will have to be built, so harvest operations probably wouldn't begin until 2015.

**FY14 funding.** The resources program has level funding in the Governor's operating budget proposal. Capital improvement project proposals for forest inventory and forest access received support in the Governor's budget.

## B. Staff changes

Former Mat-Su and Juneau Area Forester, and Coastal Region Forester, Jim Eleazer returned to DOF after seven years in retirement as the Statewide Forest Resources Program Manager. Marc Much is the new Mat-Su intern foreman, replacing Ed Kessler, who resigned to pursue a career in the private sector. Marc worked for the US Forest Service as a crew foreman, collecting inventory field data on the Tongass and Chugach National Forests. Matt Dunford resigned from his position as a Forester II in the Ketchikan office during November 2012 and moved back to Spokane to get married.

## **VII. STATEMENT OF FRPA EFFECTIVENESS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES TO CORRECT PROCEDURAL OR SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS**

Overall, the FRPA continued to be effective in protecting water quality and fish habitat, while providing for continued timber and fishing industry opportunities. With support from an FY 11 General Fund increment, DOF maintained sufficient field presence to implement the Act properly, and to conduct compliance monitoring. DOF issued no enforcement actions this year after 29 field inspections on private, municipal, and trust land. This, along with strong results from the compliance score sheets in all three regions, indicates a high degree of compliance with the Act, and shows continued success in preventing problems through DPO review, training and field consultations with the operators. DEC listed no impaired waters under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act due to forestry activities on private, state, or other public lands regulated by the FRPA.

Recommendations for changes to correct procedural or substantive problems:

- **None identified.**

## **VIII. Research and Monitoring Priorities for 2013**

- **Effectiveness monitoring: Meet with the Effectiveness Monitoring Working Group in spring 2013 to identify research and monitoring priorities for effectiveness monitoring. Continue the Status and Trends effectiveness monitoring work in Southeast Alaska and publish findings, including a watershed-scale evaluation of BMPs.**
- **Compliance monitoring: Continue compliance monitoring in all three FRPA Regions.**
- **Road condition surveys: Depending upon available funding, expand road condition surveys in Region I and on the Kenai Peninsula. A road condition survey is planned for 13,000 acres of Ahtna and Chitina lands that were harvested in the early 1990s. Work to acquire funding to conduct Region III Road Condition Surveys.**
- **Reforestation: Synthesize reforestation data from Southcentral and Interior Alaska including information on potential impacts of climate change on reforestation success and appropriate reforestation strategies.**
- **Bridge Scour Reports: Complete reports for forest road bridges that were identified by the State of Alaska Department of Transportation.**

## **IX. ADDITIONAL TASKS AND INITIATIVES FOR 2013**

In addition to ongoing FRPA implementation and enforcement work, and the items listed in section VII and VIII, specific DOF tasks for 2013 include the following:

- Ensuring that adequate funds are available for the state forest practices, forest management and cooperative forestry programs,
- Recruitment and training to fill staff vacancies,

- Providing FRPA training to DOF staff, other agencies, and operators,
- Improving documentation of reforestation activities and results on state land,
- Maintaining the improved FRPA compliance scores in Region III, ensuring that necessary erosion control measures are in-place on roads prior to freeze-up, and providing maintenance to roads used for personal use wood access within the limits of existing funding,
- Reviewing BMP compliance score sheets and adding or deleting BMPs,
- Using information from the Southeast Road Condition Survey to ensure compliance with road closure and maintenance standards, completing surveys on the Kenai Peninsula, and acquiring funding to expand the survey into other regions,
- Providing training to DOF staff on scoring and completing BMP compliance score sheets for every FRPA inspection on private or State land,
- Continue to work with the USFS to implement the Tongass Land Management Plan,
- Resolving outstanding FRPA settlement agreement proposals for enforcement actions,
- Completing a Forest Management Plan for the new Southeast State Forest,
- Providing Forest Practices information for Biomass working groups and meetings,
- Implement Alaska Timber Jobs Task Force recommendations for state land,
- Play a leadership role in developing opportunities for the use of renewable biomass energy in heating and power generation including working with project sponsors to secure biomass supply,
- Continue work on timber inventory for Haines and Tanana Valley State Forests and for forest classified lands in the Mat-Su,
- Work with the Governor's Office to pass legislation establishing the Susitna State Forest and broaden authority for negotiated sales,
- Continue with proposed large biomass projects. Finish the Best Interest Finding for the Tok biomass project and produce the Best Interest Finding for the proposed Fort Greely biomass project, and
- Develop a template for long-term biomass sale contracts, expanding on the existing long form contract.

Jan. 2012

**Table I: 2011 FRPA ACTIVITIES ON PRIVATE, MUNICIPAL, AND TRUST LAND****NOTE:** Forest practices actions are reported on a **calendar year** basis**Number of New Notifications (DPOs)**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	51	47	43	51	34	27	32	61	54	32
NSE	6	6	5	3	7	2	8	8	6	3
Mat-Su/SW	2	7	9	3	3	1	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	33	3	4	13	7	12	6	15	11	13
COASTAL	92	63	61	70	51	42	46	84	71	48
Fairbanks	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
Delta	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Copper R.	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
NORTHERN	2	16	7	0	1	1	0	1	5	9
TOTAL	94	79	68	70	52	43	46	85	76	57

**Note:** Tok 2004 DPOs include DPOs submitted under a directive for prior operations that were not noticed.**Number of Notification Renewals**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	22	14	24	17	29	27	35	24	27	9
NSE	3	4	3	0	2	0	2	1	0	1
Mat-Su/SW	0	6	0	3	8	1	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	24	3	3	0	7	6	6	2	6	4
COASTAL	49	27	30	20	46	34	43	27	33	14
Fairbanks	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	1	5	6	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	49	28	35	26	47	35	43	27	33	14



### Harvest Acreage in New Notifications Received

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	12197	30488	27733	37313	10263	18988	7752	17532	5577	8373
NSE	1780	1969	344	413	1039	211	1858	1740	2241	6379
Mat-Su/SW	578	2114	2762	5246	235	160	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	13097	3104	3392	2694	3697	2949	1894	7389	4684	8918
COASTAL	27652	37675	34231	45666	15234	22308	11504	26661	12502	23670
Fairbanks	330	95	0	0	0	0	0	168	0	161
Delta	0	0	60	0	0	360	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	2648	2360	0	0	0	0	0	2940	3685
Copper R.	0	8845	0	0	84	0	0	0	205	0
NORTHERN	330	11588	2420	0	84	360	0	168	3145	3846
TOTAL	27982	49263	36651	45666	15318	22668	11504	26829	15647	27516

### Road Miles Notified

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	71	69	34	25	23	23	30	55	28	15
NSE	10	3	4	3	1	0	0	0	10	16
Mat-Su/SW	5	13	12	46	2	1	0	0	61	64
Kenai-Kodiak	96	57	25	11	24	16	3	66	0	0
COASTAL	182	142	75	85	50	40	33	122	99	95
Fairbanks	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	6
Delta	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	60	58	0	0	0	0	0	27	31
Copper R.	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
NORTHERN	7	109	62	0	0	1	0	3	28	37
TOTAL	189	251	136	85	50	41	33	124	127	132

### # FRPA Inspections Conducted on forest operations on private, municipal, and trust land - DOF

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	58	35	59	20	39	42	29	37	18	6
NSE	11	9	13	9	8	5	3	1	2	1
Mat-Su/SW	12	7	31	25	16	5	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	43	29	31	14	6	11	10	17	21	21
COASTAL	124	80	134	68	69	63	42	55	41	28
Fairbanks	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	4	4	8	4	9	0	0	1	1
NORTHERN	1	8	11	8	4	11	0	0	1	1
									2	
TOTAL	125	88	145	76	73	74	42	55	42	29

#### # FRPA Inspections on forest operations on private, municipal, and trust land - ADF&G

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Fairbanks	3	3	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Anchorage	9	7	5	8	8	17	8	9	16	12
POW	27	37	46	8	16	15	26	25	14	19
Petersburg	6	0	2	2	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jnu/Douglas	10	21	24	5	32	0	1	7	4	2
Kenai	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10
Mat-Su	15	3	10	9	3	0	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	70	72	92	34	61	32	35	41	38	43

**Note:** For data on other ADF&G forestry-related field work, including fish habitat inspections under AS 16.05.841 and .871, road condition surveys, and other effectiveness monitoring, see ADF&G annual report text.

**Note:** ADF&G Habitat Division offices were reorganized in 2003. Data from the prior Ketchikan office was consolidated with the POW office and data from the Sitka office was combined with the Juneau-Douglas office.

**Note:** In 2009 the Petersburg office merged with the Douglas office. After 2009, data from the Petersburg Area is reported as part of the Douglas area.

**Note:** This table does not include field work for the SE Road Condition Survey.

**Note:** The number of inspections is different than the number of field days spent by the agencies. Some inspections, such as those at Icy Bay, take more than a single day. In other cases, multiple operations can be inspected on a single day. An inspection is counted for each inspection report that is filed. Each report covers a single operating area. .

#### # FRPA Inspections on forest operations on private, municipal, and trust land - DEC

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SE Region	9	3	18	14	6	6	0	0	0	0
SC Region	5	1	1	0	0	3	12	14	10	12
Interior Region	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	14	4	19	14	6	9	12	14	10	12

#### # FRPA Inspections Conducted on forest operations on STATE land - DOF

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	70	44	36	15	26	27
NSE	9	25	11	15	8	7
Mat-Su/SW	18	29	23	21	52	70
Kenai-Kodiak	9	7	13	19	29	24
COASTAL	106	105	83	70	115	128
Fairbanks	38	42	46	40	27	21
Delta	42	7	57	21	25	18
Tok	10	37	20	20	7	7
Copper R.	13	13	24	23	39	10
NORTHERN	103	99	147	104	98	56
TOTAL	209	204	230	174	213	184

**# FRPA Inspections Conducted on forest operations on STATE land - ADF&G**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Fairbanks	7	0	3	0	2	0
Anchorage	0	0	0	0	0	0
POW	0	4	1	0	2	3
Petersburg	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jnu/Douglas	1	65	3	2	3	0
Kenai	0	0	0	1	1	3
Mat-Su	2	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	10	70	7	3	8	6

**Note:** For data on other ADF&G forestry-related field work, including fish habitat inspections under AS 16.05.841 and .871, road condition surveys, and other effectiveness monitoring, see ADF&G annual report text.

**# FRPA Inspections Conducted on forest operations on STATE land - DEC**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SE Region	0	0	0	0	0	0
SC Region	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interior Region	2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	0	0	0	0	0

**Note:** This table does not include field work for the SE Road Condition Survey.

**Note:** The number of inspections is different than the number of field days spent by the agencies. Some inspections, such as those at Icy Bay, take more than a single day. In other cases, multiple operations can be inspected on a single day. An inspection is counted for each inspection report that is filed. Each report covers a single operating area. .

**# field days spent on FRPA Inspections on all non-federal land - DOF**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	109	86	65	52	19	29
NSE	17	30	14	16	6	3
Mat-Su/SW	34	34	23	21	23	39
Kenai-Kodiak	15	18	23	36	109	71
COASTAL	175	168	125	125	157	142
Fairbanks	38	42	46	40	34	31
Delta	42	9	57	21	33	18
Tok	10	37	20	20	2	7
Copper R.	17	22	24	23	76	11
NORTHERN	107	110	147	104	145	67
TOTAL	282	278	272	229	223	209

**# field days spent on FRPA Inspections on all non-federal land - ADF&G**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Fairbanks	9	0	3	0	2	0
Anchorage	8	17	8	9	23	36
POW	16	19	27	25	14	22
Petersburg	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jnu/Douglas	33	65	4	9	6	20
Kenai	0	0	0	1	2	13
Mat-Su	5	1	0	0	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>91</b>

**# field days spent on FRPA Inspections on all non-federal land - DEC**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SE Region	6	6	0	0	0	0
SC Region	0	3	12	21	20	36
Interior Region	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>36</b>

**# Variation requests received**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	16	20	10	0	0	26	10	2	1	1
NSE	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MS/SW	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	1	0	0	2	2	3	1	2	3	3
COASTAL	19	21	10	2	2	30	11	4	4	4
Fairbanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

Note: The Kenai-Kodiak Area 2002, 2003, and one of the 2006 variation requests were for provisions other than harvesting in buffers.

**# Variation Trees Reviewed (approved, denied, and other)\* in site-specific variations**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	336	948	411	0	0	538	222	14	6	46
NSE	199	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mat-Su/SW	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	0	0	0	9	168	327	361	160	294	678
COASTAL	535	965	411	9	168	872	583	174	300	724
Fairbanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	535	965	411	9	168	872	583	174	300	724

\*Variation trees reviewed covers all trees inspected on site in site-specific variations. This includes trees approved or denied for harvest, plus "other" trees such as those that are withdrawn from the variation request or that are found to be outside the riparian buffer. It does not include trees harvested in small streamside zones under 11 AAC 95.240

\*\*Variations in the Tok Area were for groups of small trees rather than individual large trees. See report text for description.

**# Variation Trees Approved**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	255	831	390	0	0	531	222	14	6	46
NSE	193	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mat-Su/SW	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	0	0	0	8	167	321	361	160	295	640
COASTAL	448	848	390	8	167	859	583	174	301	686
Fairbanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	0	see note	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	448	848	390	8	167	859	583	174	301	686
% approved	84%	88%	95%	89%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	95%

\*\*Variations in the Tok Area were for groups of small trees rather than individual large trees. See report text for description.

**FRPA Notices of Violation Issued**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mat-Su/SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
COASTAL	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Fairbanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

**Acres Reviewed for Reforestation Exemptions**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mat-Su/SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	16,455	124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,201
COASTAL	16,455	124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,201
Fairbanks	277	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	0	6,598	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	277	6,598	0	0	0	40	0	0	40	0
TOTAL	16,732	6,722	0	0	0	40	0	0	40	1,201

**Acres Reviewed for Compliance with Reforestation Requirements**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSE	5,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,743
Mat-Su/SW	0	0	0	168	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenai-Kodiak	4,217	3,241	1,542	568	50	0	311	965	0	0
COASTAL	9,617	3,241	1,542	736	50	0	311	965	0	2,743
Fairbanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	40	0
Delta	0	245	0	0	0	0	71	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper R.	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHERN	25	245	0	0	0	0	78	0	40	0
TOTAL	9,642	3,486	1,542	736	50	0	389	965	40	2,743



**Table 2: SUMMARY OF 2012 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**  
**March 4, 2013**

**CARRY-OVER ACTIONS**

These actions were initiated prior to 2012, but compliance actions were still in progress at the time of the 2012 report to the Board.

**AS 41.17 Charging documents for violations**

<b>Case #</b>	<b>Date initiated</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Issued by</b>	<b>Date of compliance</b>
SSE-01-02V	11-29-01	Soda Bay	Greg Staunton	Pending

The Respondent incorrectly installed three bridge crossings over non-cataloged streams. The violations occurred when the operator disturbed and damaged the banks of the streams at the crossings. The operator further compounded the damage by placing large boulders on the damaged banks without permission. The Prosecution Coordinator contacted the Respondent and offered a settlement of a cash fine. The Respondent submitted a counteroffer of using previously completed stream mitigation work in lieu of paying the cash fine, which DNR declined. After further discussion the Respondent then accepted the cash fine settlement initially proposed by the Prosecution Coordinator. The proposed cash fine settlement was submitted to the Hearing Officer for a decision in early 2004. The case is pending.

NSE-02-01V	10-02	Hoonah	Roy Josephson	Pending
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The Respondent is charged with conducting commercial timber harvest and road construction without first providing a DPO as required in AS 41.17.090 and 11 AAC 95.220. The Prosecution Coordinator contacted the Respondent and offered a settlement of a cash fine. The Respondent accepted the proposed cash fine settlement. The proposed cash fine settlement was submitted to the Hearing Officer; the case is pending.

**ACTIONS INITIATED IN 2012: NONE**